



Homeland  
Security

July 6, 2005

Dear Critical Infrastructure Partner,

A severe pandemic influenza has the ability to affect our nation's critical infrastructure, and as a result our national economic and social stability. As part of the Federal Government's overall pandemic preparedness strategy, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is pleased to release the ***Pandemic Influenza Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Guide for Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CI/KR)***.

I am sending the attached electronic version of this Guide directly to the CI/KR Sector Coordinating Councils (SCCs), Government Coordinating Councils (GCCs) and Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs) in order to expedite its dissemination within and across CI/KR sectors. In addition, the chairs and vice-chairs of each SCC, as well as all SSAs, will receive a bound color hardcopy in the mail. A PDF document of the Guide will also be available shortly for all sectors, businesses, and other interested parties to view and download from [www.pandemicflu.gov](http://www.pandemicflu.gov).

The primary purpose of this Pandemic Guide is to stimulate the private sector, and specifically the critical infrastructures and key resource sectors, to act now. In one document, the Guide provides an overview of the pandemic threat; assembles the primary government and pandemic influenza-related background material, references, and contacts; articulates the roles, responsibilities, and authorities for all public-private partners; outlines the implications for businesses; and presents an innovative strategic framework that extends and refines existing business continuity planning. The framework, Continuity of Operations Plan-Essential (COP-E) supports DHS's national-level CI/KR preparedness and protection mission and urges private sector business planners to expand upon their traditional notions of business continuity.

This Guide is one of several practical tools that will help CI/KR owner-operators and other private sector partners enhance private sector pandemic preparedness. Others include the CDC's business planning checklists, and the Department of Health and Human Services' *Pandemic Influenza Plan*.

Publication of this document is an important step in preparing for a severe pandemic influenza. We believe it will greatly benefit our partners in the public and private sectors. If you have any questions or comments, please contact [dhspandemic@dhs.gov](mailto:dhspandemic@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James R. Caverly".

James R. Caverly  
Director, Infrastructure Partnerships Division, DHS